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COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE HORTICULTURE HORSES CATTLE SHEEP SWINE ETC.

ST. LOUIS, MO. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1902.

Volume LV, No. 51

COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD.

Published every Wednesday, in Chemical building, corner of Eighth and Olive streets, St. Louis, Mo., at one dollar per year. Eastern office, Chalmers D. Colman, 125 Temple Court, New York City. Advertisers will find the RURAL WORLD the best advertising medium of its class in the United States. Address all letters to COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD, Chemical Building, St. Louis, Mo.

Subscribers should bear in mind that the RURAL WORLD is stopped when the time paid for has expired. To keep up a constantly increasing subscription list we allow old subscribers to send a NEW name with their own for one dollar, and to add at any time NEW names at fifty cents each—but renewals without new names are at one dollar a year. We also allow subscribers to club with the twice-week "Republican" or the twice-week "Globe-Democrat" at \$1.50 a year—thus securing two one-dollar papers at that very low price. We appreciate the kind efforts of our patrons in all parts of the union in speaking good words in behalf of the RURAL WORLD, and it is to these efforts we attribute our constantly increasing circulation.

WHAT IS AGRICULTURE?

All who have made a study of human speech know that language is a growth, not a creation. It develops by the slow process of adding word upon word—just as a plant grows by the accumulation of related cells. As the language plant grows with the race, the forms of its cell-words change to fit new uses; often the original significance of a word is lost; it takes on new meaning while retaining the old form. The study of comparative philology is a fascinating pursuit—for those who like it.

It is said that the science of agriculture is fundamental to the life of all sciences. We look to it for the means of subsistence and by it, through the first law of the animal—hunger—existence itself is sustained.

It is also said that agriculture touches upon the edges of all other sciences and is interwoven with them in the warp and woof of the whole fabric of human knowledge. Even the science of language is affected by the changes taking place in the growth and through new discoveries in the domain of agriculture, and it may be profitable to inquire into a few of the changes which have taken place in the history of agriculture and the meaning of certain words in common use today.

Most of the English language is inherited from some parent race. The word "agriculture" comes from those fruitful sources, the Latin and Greek, and means literally "field culture" or soil tilling from Latin "ager" and Greek "agros"—a field, and "cultura"—cultivation.

The present scope of the term may be shown by the work done under our National Department of Agriculture, which is itself a part of the science and as such illustrates the evolution of the science of agriculture from mere soil tilling to the splendid pandect it has become.

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We are still building and the changes are yet going on. Horticulture, for example, once meant "garden" culture from Latin "hortus"—a garden. Now it includes Floriculture, Truck or market gardening, Fruit Culture, Orcharding, Landscape Gardening and Landscaping Architecture, each division a science in itself. In Missouri, Horticulture means apple growing; if the attention given this industry at the Horticultural Society meeting was any indication.

There are some other interesting words related to agriculture, such as "agronomy," treating of the grasses and "agronomy," which means the theory and practice of the production of farm crops and includes soil physics as well as the chemistry and bacteriology of soils and crops.

For the sake of precision we should like to see the term "agronomy" grow into common usage. It means now what "agriculture" was meant to convey in the old days. It is euphonious, simple and exact. In the present day there is no more excuse for calling soil tilling "agriculture"—except in the broad sense, that there would be in applying the term to flower or fruit culture, or the science of fattening cattle or making butter.

The term of the word "agriculture" has outgrown its husk. It occupies a very much larger field than it did in the days of Aristotle or Cicero.

FARMER'S INSTITUTES.

If there is any more hopeful sign of the times than the holding of Farmer's Institutes throughout the land, bringing before the busy farmer in his home town,

some fragments of that exact education in the business of farming, which was not provided in the preceding generation, it is the eagerness with which these same countrymen turn out to attend the sessions held under the auspices of the state boards of agriculture.

A special two-week series of meetings was begun Monday, Dec. 8th, under the direction of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture, a few of which—those at Versailles, California, and Elkhart, Indiana—were held at the pleasure of the writer.

Space will not permit an extended report of these meetings but a few impressive points may be mentioned. The attendance during the first week was very good at each place, at no place less than seventy-five, and at New Haven, Connecticut and Versailles the attendance averaged 250 for the evening sessions. The fact that so many farmers in spite of bad weather and heavy roads will drive ten or fifteen miles to hear lectures on practical farm topics by professional men, affords strong proof that the day of Missouri moneys has passed. A moneysack is defined as one so conservative as to be likened to an old tree or stone covered with moss. He is so supremely satisfied or indifferent that he declines to change his views or learn any new thing. He does not believe in progress but is a worshiper of antiquity. China is a nation of moneysacks. They want to innovate and they have not progressed at all in six thousand years except in numbers. The Japanese, who have been styled the "Yankees of the Orient," have caught on to American ideas and they have made tremendous strides in the past half century. The farmers were alert and wide-awake who came out to hear Prof. H. J. Waters, Dean of the Missouri Agricultural College, talk about cattle feeding, and other topics; the fact that they requested him, in many instances, to speak on the subject "Improving the Fertility of the Soil" was most encouraging.

There was no evidence of moss in the apt attention given Prof. Whitten's excellent talks on Horticulture. The program being adapted to conditions in the surrounding country. Prof. Whitten devoted his time to a discussion of fruit, mainly apple growing. He lectured on pruning, planting and cultivation of the orchard accompanied by actual demonstrations of pruning peach, apple and cherry trees, was an object lesson of incalculable value. An orchardist might read or be told many times just how to prune a two-year-old apple tree but it is one thing to see it done and quite another to do it. The speaker was a man of half hour's lucid talk by an expert with the actual work going on before his eyes.

Here is one of the distinctly important features of Institute work. The mind retains impressions better through the eye than through the ear or by reading. The speaker was a man of half hour's lucid talk by an expert with the actual work going on before his eyes.

The way farmers gathered about Dr. Luckey to talk over veterinary matters after the meeting shows that they were alive to the advantages of the modern advance in veterinary science.

Prof. L. J. Hall, assistant state superintendent of schools, gave some very interesting talks on Rural Schools.

Mr. D. E. King, who has charge of the car furnished by the Missouri Pacific road, which carried the exhibit of grain, trees, etc., was indefatigable in his efforts to make the trip a success. His knowledge of the people and the country and his faith in their development was combined with an amount of railroad hustle which made things happen.

We have always believed in the future greatness of Missouri. She has resources—perhaps unsurpassed by any other state. We have intimated on several occasions that all she needed was the men. Now we are convinced that she has them. The development of any state or section is too great a task for one man or one class of men. But if all who have the hope of the growth and greatness of their state in their hearts will firmly fix their minds on the goal, their industry will work out the salvation of the whole commonwealth, and this will redound to the honor of each unit who has a part in it. A union of Heart, Head and Hand forms a triumvirate that is invincible.

WHAT DOES EDUCATION DO FOR THE FARMER.

We submit the following interesting correspondence to our readers as containing the gist of some oft-repeated inquiries by the skeptical and answers by a man who is in a position to know whereof he speaks. If any doubter of the efficacy of an agricultural education will read Prof. Sanborn's letter in the RURAL WORLD for September 24, 1902, showing how a professional man with the alleged handicap of a scholarly temperament, and a college education turned a barren waste of New England hills into a fertile farm and made it pay, he will be converted.

The one who doubts the practicability of agricultural education may as well maintain that a doctor would make a better practitioner without an education in medicine; yet the result is always a quick.

In the legal profession the man who tries to practice law without thorough preparation succeeds in being a shyster only. Farming is a profession as well as a business. The professional or scientific knowledge can best be gained at an agricultural school. The business ability is largely born in a man, but it

may be developed by a rational course of study and contact with many minds all working in similar channels. The letters referred to are as follows:

Mount Angel, Oregon, Dec. 1, 1902.

Prof. F. B. Mumford, Professor of Agriculture, Missouri Agricultural College, Columbia, Mo.

Dear Sir:—I have just read in the RURAL WORLD of Nov. 26 your letter, "Education for the Farmer," explaining the scope and purpose of the agricultural course offered by the Missouri State College. For the instruction and benefit of the young men and women who read the RURAL WORLD and who may soon contemplate taking a course in some professional school will you kindly answer the following questions:

1. Will a graduate from the agricultural college find it as easy to prosper in the commercial world as if he had (with equal natural adaptation), taken a course in Engineering, Law or Medicine or become a teacher?
2. Do agricultural college graduates find it easy to secure profitable positions today—such positions as will enable them to maintain the dignity and self-respect of college graduates?
3. Do not agricultural college graduates have to work much longer days and months for much less pay than persons of equal knowledge and ability in other professional lines?
4. Is not the young agricultural college graduate who attempts to become an actual practical farmer with no capital other than his education at a great disadvantage in the business world?
5. Does not the difficulty experienced by agricultural colleges, first, in securing students, and second, in returning them to the farm as actual farmers furnish positive proof that agricultural education as a business investment does not pay? Very truly yours,

S. H. VAN TRUMP.

Editor RURAL WORLD:—I am glad to answer the questions that have been sent to me in the enclosed letter. In the first place, before taking up in order the questions asked by your correspondent, it will be necessary for you to remember that Agricultural Education is comparatively new. Of all the technical schools connected with our public school system, none have existed for so short a time, and it may also be said that no other technical form of education has advanced so rapidly as has agriculture in the time since its establishment.

1. Graduates of Agricultural Colleges at the present time are in greater demand for a great variety of work. They are not only in demand as managers of large agricultural enterprises, but as workers in experiment stations, agricultural colleges, editors of agricultural newspapers, dairymen, orchardists, veterinarians, and a great many other vocations.

2. The second question has already been answered in the enclosed letter. Success in any vocation is not attained at the present time without great labor, and we cannot believe that success in agriculture is necessarily the result of longer hours and greater hardships than is the case in the other vocations of life.

3. The young agricultural college graduate is at no greater disadvantage because of lack of capital than is the case in any other commercial enterprise. A lack of capital is a handicap on any man's success. No class of business men in society are better able to secure profitable employment than are the graduates of any of these other institutions. This institution has repeated calls for its graduates for positions paying from \$1,000 to \$2,000, and the supply of men is wholly inadequate for this demand.

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5. No, decidedly not. The great mass of farmers have not yet come to realize that the instruction given at an agricultural college is not the same as the education received by our fathers. The great mass of farmers do not yet appreciate the fact that all the various operations of the farm—planting, sowing and reaping of crops, the judging, breeding, feeding and handling of live stock, the manufacture of butter and cheese, and all the other operations—are taught at the agricultural colleges, and to say that these facts about every day business of the farmer tend to drive him from the farm, is not true.

After all the value of an agricultural education should not be judged by comparing it with the professional skill of other men. The proper comparison is having given an individual whose life work is to be devoted to agriculture—what are the chances for his success in life with and without an education in an agricultural school? The writer of this article is personally acquainted with hundreds of practical farmers, graduates of agricultural colleges, and he has yet to hear of one who regrets in any sense the fact that he had early in life the opportunity of acquiring his education at an agricultural college.

Columbia, Mo.

FREDERICK B. MUMFORD.

SAVE YOUR STRAW.

Editor RURAL WORLD:—Judging from the shiftness way the majority of farmers waste their straw, they are apparently not aware that ordinary wheat straw is a much more nutritious fodder for cattle than a large percentage of prairie hay. Oat straw, properly cured, is a better fodder than wheat straw, and superior to all grades of hay with the exception of timothy, clover, rye grass and irrigation hays.

This fact does not appear to be generally known by the average Western farmer, or else he would take better care of his straw and avoid useless effort and expense in getting together collections of hard, fibrous, indigestible prairie, red top and similar straws for fodder purposes. With the idea that, because they go under the name of hay, they must contain more nutrition than straw. Nor would the average Western wheat grower half starve his young cattle in winter roughing them on fields of corn stalks and running them to a shapeless mound of straw lying rotting and bleaching in the corner of a field if he knew that by proper care of his straw, with the help of all sorts of corn, bran, shorts, cotton or linseed meal—or other convenient or cheap form of proteinaceous food, he could carry through his stock of young cattle in excellent flesh and turn them out to the grass in spring in good thriving condition, instead of living skeletons, as frequently occurs by the present careless, slipshod methods.

It is within the reach of every farmer to teach his little quota of cattle in good, healthy, growing condition from the time the calf drops until it reaches the stock yards as beef, requiring only care and management, rather than additional outlay. Use the same amount of care and common sense to save your straw that you do to produce a good quality of timothy or clover hay—cut your wheat and oats at the proper stage to secure the maturity of the grain, shock it carefully as soon as conveniently may, either thresh or stack it—and take as good care of your straw as you do of your hay. It will grow stock intelligently, and they will grow and thrive as well in winter with the straw as they do in spring on the first flush of grass.

There is only one way to grow a 1,600 pound steer at the age of 2½ to 3 years: Start with a calf of a good grade, raise it intelligently, and they will grow and thrive as well in winter with the straw as they do in spring on the first flush of grass.

This is within the reach of every farmer growing stock, by adopting this method of feeding to climate, circumstances and surrounding conditions. The scrub hay, for instance, does not pay to raise it, and a thoroughbred beef animal will give scrub results on the butcher's block unless intelligently fed and cared for. It pays to take care of by-products, adapt your method of raising your cattle to your circumstances and surroundings.

Farmers are howling at the price of beef, and some at about half that price. It costs no more expense to raise the best, only care and judgment. When you grow straw why not utilize it to advantage in place of wasting it?

THOMAS LAWSON.

Dr. J. W. Dalton of Dalton, Ark., gave the RURAL WORLD a call last week to renew his order and subscriptions to the RURAL WORLD. He has sent us many new subscribers the past year. He is one of the enterprising farmers of Arkansas, engaged in raising Short Horn cattle, Poland China swine and the improved breeds of sheep. About a year ago he had the misfortune to lose by fire a large new barn filled with hay, corn, etc., and also burning up a large number of Short Horn cattle. Dr. Dalton says the loss was more than three thousand dollars, but he has rebuilt, and is pushing his farming business on a larger scale than ever before.

PEBBLES FROM THE POTOMAC.

Editor RURAL WORLD: The Chrysothemum show, recently held by the agricultural department, was a success. Some 122 varieties were exhibited. The blossoms ranged all the way up to 14 inches in size. Nearly all colors and hues from pure white to deep red black. The McKinley (yellow), Bryan (pure white), Roosevelt (deep red-black), were the chrysothemums that attracted much attention.

An order has been placed with a famous pottery maker in England for a special set of dishes for the White House. The set will be of simple colonial design of 1,250 pieces.

The Thanksgiving turkey at the White House was a 22-pound chestnut-fed fowl and came from Rhode Island. We congratulate the White House family on securing so fine a specimen.

The 24 big pillars of the Treasury Department are being cleaned. The sight of the experts on the swinging scaffolds,

manipulating the big sand and compressed air atomizers, polishing up the mammoth columns interests the thousands of passersby.

Indications are that a Department of Commerce will be created at the coming session of Congress.

The markets, in anticipation of the holiday demands, were liberally supplied with all the good things of the season. Gobblers and deer from the Virginia mountains, oysters from the Chesapeake, and small game of all kinds were particularly in evidence. S. F. GILLESPIE, Washington, D. C.

PROF. JOHN T. STINSON.

Last week in "News and Comment" we announced briefly the appointment of Prof. John T. Stinson as Superintendent of Pomology in the World's Fair Department of Horticulture. We are glad to give our readers this week so good a portrait of an able man.

A brief outline of Prof. Stinson's life would reveal that he was born in the state of Indiana and raised on a farm near Red Oak, Iowa, graduated from the Iowa agricultural college at Ames in 1880, began work as Horticulturist of the Arkansas Experiment Station at Fayetteville, Dec. 1881, and in addition to this work soon after elected to the chair of Professor of Horticulture in the University of Arkansas. He resigned this position to accept the appointment as Director of Fruit Experiment Station at Mountain Grove, Mo., Feb. 1st, 1900. He is a life member of the American Pomological Society and also an active member of other horticultural societies.

He has always taken a keen interest in all matters pertaining to Horticulture and has spent considerable time each year for the last twelve years visiting different fruit sections of the United States for the purpose of collecting material useful in the conduct of his work both in Arkansas and at the Experiment Station in Missouri.

Prof. Stinson's recent appointment was strongly recommended by Mr. F. W. Taylor, chief of the Department of Horticulture, who says: "I have known Prof. Stinson for a number of years and consider him one of the brightest young men in Horticultural work in the United States."

Mr. M. T. Davis, president of the Missouri State Commission for the World's Fair, said in a letter recommending Prof. Stinson for the position: "I was on the Board of Trustees when the Missouri Fruit Experimental Station at Mountain Grove, Mo., was established. Prof. Stinson was employed while I was there, and it affords me pleasure to commend him to you. He is a young man full of vim and push, and is up in all lines of his profession. He is, in fact, an enthusiast on this subject, having made it a life study."

Mr. Philip D. Scott, a member of the World's Fair National Commission, writes: "I feel sure that Mr. Stinson will prove a valuable man for you. I can not say too much in his behalf, and will give you my personal guarantee that he is all right in every respect."

Mr. George Sengel, of Fort Smith, Ark., a member of the Arkansas Senate, writes: "Prof. Stinson made a special study of pomology at the World's Fair at Chicago, and at the Omaha exposition. He enjoys the confidence and good-will of our people and we would be delighted to see him thus honored."

We only wish to add to the above expressions, the opinion that from our personal knowledge of Prof. Stinson, the agricultural department could not have found for this position a man better qualified in the rather unusual combination of technical knowledge and power as an organizer. Prof. Stinson is not merely a college professor nor an analytical student of an abstract science; he is an "all round" man with a broad view of the practicalities of fruit growing and its future as a leading American industry.

The RURAL WORLD is always pleased to receive the names and post office addresses of those whom subscribers think would like to read this paper. The lists may be made as large as the senders may think desirable. We will take pleasure in sending sample copies to all names sent. In this way large additions may be made to our subscription list. A timely word to friends would often induce them to subscribe. We want 100,000 readers for 1903. Who will help get them?

A LONG HORN AMONG THE "MULETS."

Editor RURAL WORLD: Your valued correspondent, Mr. Lawson, in his article, "A Missourian in Texas," states facts as he sees them, and which from our observation point, are about correct. Being a native Missourian I am not easily led astray by idle tales, but have to be "shown." Consequently I left Texas on the last, on a tour of inspection of what I consider one of the best sections of my object being to find a home in "poor old Missouri," which, by the way, is the best state in the Union.

I have but little to say of the extreme southern and southwestern part of the state, but from "near window" appearances wheat and fruit seem to be the chief agricultural products. I stopped at Bellamy, Vernon county, and found our friend, C. A. Bird, busily engaged in storing away some fine clover hay. Mr. Bird has a fine place and is a scientific farmer, one who knows why his farms according to certain methods. I find a great deal of corn still in the field, very little having been cut. Vernon county produces a great deal of prairie hay, also much timothy. I find a great deal of the corn is being shipped to Texas and other southern states in the truck, and but little shelled corn is going into the mill just now. The northern and eastern corn, however, seems to demand shelled corn.

The farmers of Pettis, Henry, Bates, Vernon and neighboring counties should be contented with such abundant crops of everything for both man and beast. I find a great many of them grumbling because they can't get the corn out of the field on account of so much wet weather.

I find a great many cattle and even horses still on pastures and looking well. Some are just now beginning to feed. Hogs are scarce, both porkers and stock hogs, and the cotton oil prospects sold as "pure leaf lard" is still very much in evidence.

Land buyers from Iowa and Illinois are coming into this section and many farms are changing hands at a good figure. Many farms that have heretofore been rented are being held for sale or higher rental. Prices are likely to take a drop about January 1st, when the fall land buying has somewhat subsided. I still find Missouri land a good thing to buy regardless of recent advances. I find fully one-third of the corn still in the field and other farm work retarded by wet weather. But little wheat has been sown in the counties mentioned.

I am now a full-fledged "re-naturalized" Missourian, and instead of "Texas Talk" will try to keep you advised of what little I observe of farming conditions in my new home and native state.

H. F. GRINSTEAD, Pettis Co., Mo., Dec. 13, 1902.

THE REIGN OF PLENTY IN MISSOURI.

The report of the Secretary of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture calls attention to the fact that the production of the fertile soil of Missouri, says an exchange. Such an aggregate of crops has never been known before in the state history. Missouri can always be depended upon to make a good showing in farm products. There is no great agricultural state in the Union more reliable. Yet this year it has fairly outdone itself. Its wheat and corn alone will put more than 100 million dollars into the pockets of its farmers.

In connection with the secretary's report the census figures on the agricultural products of Missouri are of interest. In 1900 the wheat crop was valued at \$20 million dollars—just twice the estimate of 1900. Few states did better. In the census year Missouri was the possessor of 2,345,000 neat cattle, including 3 million dairy cows. Its hogs were estimated to number 4½ millions, and it was surpassed by only 500,000 only by Texas. The live stock of its farmers was valued at 100½ million dollars. Fifteen million chickens supplied it with 35 million dozen eggs. Its bees produced 3 million pounds of honey. After selling 26 million gallons of butter and 28,000 pounds of cheese.

The present year has been a better one from the farmer's standpoint than 1900. His work has been awarded with an abundance of crops. Men from other states are crowding in to buy his land. He is getting a good price for his produce and he can sell his farm if he cares to for a sum that would have been considered out of the question two or three years ago. For the Missouri farmer the year is crowned with goodness and his paths drop fatness.

Mayor Harrison of Chicago, on his return from a hunting trip in the South-west, gives the same advice that Horace Greeley gave the young men of the country years ago.

The Mayor's advice applies especially to Oklahoma and the Indian Territory. "Were I under 30 years of age," he said, "I would certainly go to that section of the country. Nearly every man out there is young and vigorous and prosperous. Every one seemed to be making money and the future is full of promise."

"The cotton fields are like snow fields at present. The stock farms are magnificent. In fact, the country is invigorating. Inspiring and most alluring. I advise young men to strike out for that portion of the West."

NEWS AND COMMENT.

A historic figure disappears in the death of Mrs. U. S. Grant. She was born in St. Louis seventy-seven years ago.

Iowa's final crop report shows an increase of 600,000 bushels of corn over last year, but a decrease in value of \$5,000,000. Iowa should grow better corn and less of it.

England is again buying horses and mules for South Africa and the Missouri mule industry flourishes apace. The mule is always good property and hath his victories in peace as well as war.

Florida's orange crop will exceed that of 1901 by 250,000 boxes. The Florida orange is too fine a fruit to be put out of commission by one cold snap. We are glad to note the increase in the yield.

The annual meeting of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture was held in Columbia, Dec. 16th. A report of the proceedings and list of the newly elected officers will be given in our next issue.

The article on page 6 of this issue by our Ohio correspondent, Mr. C. D. Lyon, on "Poultry Houses" is too good to be overlooked. This article takes the place of the regular letter from Higiniaport for this week.

The addresses made before the recent convention of Missouri Dairymen appear in a neat pamphlet issued as a bulletin of the State Board of Agriculture. The bulletin is sent free, upon application to Geo. B. Ellis, Sec'y., Columbia, Mo.

The shortage of freight cars continues and while this occurs every year at this season, it is much more noticeable than ever before. One effect will be to prevent an avalanche of corn shipments, which would tend to depress prices until the cribs were empty and elevators full. Then the elevator men would get in their work advancing prices. And what are they there for if not to elevate?

The world's firing line has been transferred to the Western Hemisphere. Venezuela is having several kinds of trouble with Germany and Great Britain. Of course American sympathy is with our little sister. But judicially speaking, she is wrong and needs a spanking. She hasn't played fair and won't pay her debts. It is for Uncle Sam to say how far the punishment shall go and the Monroe Doctrine will effectively prevent the seizure of an inch of American territory by a European power.

Congress will be asked to make an appropriation of \$100,000 for an exhibit of the work of the agricultural colleges at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in 1904.

Dr. W. O. Thompson, president of the Ohio state university at Columbus, and Dr. H. C. White of the university of Georgia, are in Washington, as representatives of the American agricultural colleges and experiment stations, for the purpose of securing the appropriation. Both are highly enthusiastic, and believe that the exhibit, if it can be secured along proposed lines, will be one of the most attractive features of the exposition.

A Michigan man has made \$14,000 in five years by killing three-quarters of a million English sparrows. At the bounty rate of two cents a head, the wonder is that no one has gone into the sparrow industry and raised them in large numbers. Just as soon as somebody finds a use for the little pest and tries to cultivate him, the sparrow will develop some enemy or disease that will rapidly deplete the tribe. At least that is the history of all domesticated animals. Nobody has ever yet found a use for the Osage orange fruit. When that is done, the tree will doubtless develop a fungus or insect parasite which will attack the big green oranges with all the vigor and tenacity of a codling moth or a bitter root spout.

The implement dealers have organized; the Beef Packers are following suit; the steel producers, the sugar makers, the millers, the butchers, the baker, the candlestick maker, every profession and every trade has its Association or its Union. What are the farmers of this country going to do in this direction? Will they be the last to get together for mutual protection and welfare? And after every citizen in the U. S. is a member of a trust, union or mutual benefit association, how much better off will we be than in the old days of individualism and free competition? Let the farmers take this up before it is too late to do them any good except defensive. What is first needed is a leader. Where is there a Moses?

The Statehood question is in the air. Nobody can safely predict, except that Arizona and New Mexico will be admitted to statehood before many years and perhaps at the present session of Congress. The sentiment in Oklahoma and Indian Territory seems to favor single statehood, and there's great probability that another star will be added to the flag by next Fourth of July, representing the new state of Oklahoma. If Nevada, with 27,000 inhabitants, is allowed to enjoy the privileges of statehood, it is ridiculous to talk of obstructing the admission of territory like Oklahoma, or Indian Territory, with a population each of over 400,000. Arizona has over 125,000, and New Mexico over 200,000. Politics should not enter the case. Every citizen interested in the development of the great Southwest wants these territories made into states regardless of how they will vote.

Home Circle

Written for the RURAL WORLD.
PEACE.

Where the sunlight creeps through the
river flows still,
Silent and mournful all day,
On to the ocean, joined by each rill
And each little stream from the snow-
drift hill.
And out to the throbbing bay,
But I weep no more, for my blood leaps
up,
And my life is bright as I drink of the
cup.
That has taken life's grief away.
As the brook and the river flow on to the
sea,
Binging their happy refrain,
The ocean claps at the close of day,
When the wind is hushed, and the sun
away
And carries them home again.
So with love as my guide, to all that is
right,
I bless each day as it closes at night,
I, too, would glide on to the bay.

AGNES BISBEE.

Written for the RURAL WORLD.
"HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE."

I know not why it is, but I never see
one of those ridiculous cartoons in the
would-be funny columns of a news-
paper, representing the farmer in an
unpleasant position, with straw hat, and
trousers half-way between ankle and
knee, and with a tuft of beard on the
tip of a pointed chin, a hatchet face,
and a generally mean and disreputable
appearance, that I do not feel a sense of
personality injury, and a strong desire
to state that cartoonist into a sensible and
correct attitude toward the tillers of the
soil.

If there is any profession or occupation
in the world more necessary, or more
honorable, than farming, I should like to
know what it is. If these little penny-
dreadfuls and cartoons in the news-
papers, trying to be funny at the ex-
pense of the farmer, can live and thrive
without the farmer's toll and intelligence,
I should like to know how.

These same foolish fellows really try to
discredit the occupation which most of
us keep as our sole life. It is to this
source that much of the disaffection
among the ranks of those who till the
soil may be traced. No one likes to be
made the subject of continuous ridicule;
most young men shrink from it with
something akin to horror, and there
ought to be some way to put a stop to it.
I think the club movement, America will
have to unite in trying to get a law
passed making it misdemeanor to in any
way attempt to bring ridicule on an oc-
cupation so necessary and so noble.

If these unfeeling publishers would
turn their funny columns, their pen-
graphs and cartoons against the saloons
or any other existing evil, and keep up
the same unflinching zeal in trying to
show up the actual disgrace of these
things, that they employ in trying to dis-
countenance the pursuit of agriculture,
they might be a power for good, as they
are now a source of much evil.

The gold-brick joke? It is so thread-
bare that I wonder how any editor of
even average ability can fall to be dis-
gusted with the regularity of its repeti-
tion. I do not see why it is not run in
with the weather report, or market quo-
tations. It has become such a standard
thing.

How these caterers to public taste have
come by the idea that people like such
stuff puzzles me much. In contrast with
these absurd caricatures of the farmer in
the inane columns of the funny page of
the general magazine, stand the
fine, manly, strong, dignified photo-
graphs of leading farmers in the agricul-
tural journals. You see few of these in
any other place. Instead, you find pho-
tographic representation of lawyers,
actors, preachers and business men, not
to mention the politicians, and stand
small, yet the farmer—the average farmer—
is the peer of most of these others,
morally, physically and mentally. Then,
the others all thrive because he intelli-
gently cultivates the soil, raises cattle
for them to eat, and furnishes everything
that goes to make up the nation. He
once read of a foolish man who quarreled
with his dinner. Are not the men who
reluctantly try to bring agriculture into
disrepute doing the same thing? Any-
way, let us beg a surcease of the gold-
brick idiosyncrasy.

MAY MYRTLE.

EXPRESSING THOUGHTS.

We are indebted to a gracefully written
article in the Sunday papers, a much per-
sonal information about Booth Tarkington,
who is the author of some of the
best stories and doughnuts that come
into existence in Indiana. (Mr. Tarkington
owns a doughnut factory.) The Indiana
novelists' methods of writing are
told, and in the accounts we read: "In
writing his stories, he has had a peculiar
difficulty in expressing his thoughts just
as they come to him." This ought not to
be regarded as so especially distinctive
of Mr. Tarkington as to be particularly
mentioned. It is a peculiarity only that
prevents the whole world from becoming
authors. When the difficulty of express-
ing one's thoughts becomes insurmount-
able we have one writer the less. Any
one who can express thoughts by words
that give exact shades of meaning can
be an author worth reading, and most
people who do it wrestle with the diffi-
culty and a good dictionary and overcome it
to a greater or less degree. There are
thousands who preceded Mr. Tarkington
in the field of literature who experienced
difficulty in expressing their thoughts,
and some never did express them as
clearly as they desired. Tennyson said:
"I would that my tongue could utter the
thoughts that arise in me." Macaulay
never got through revising the words of
his history. Gray spent seven years or
more in trying to make his "Elegy" ex-
press his thoughts, and then Dr. Johnson
said there were only four good lines in
it. There are a host of people quite as
handicapped in putting ideas into lan-

\$100 REWARD \$100.

The readers of this paper will be
pleased to learn that there is at least one
broad disease that science has been
able to cure in all its stages, and that is
Cataract. Hall's Cataract Cure is the only
positive cure known to the medical
profession. It is a constitutional disease
and requires a constitutional treatment.
Hall's Cataract Cure is taken inter-
nally, acting directly upon the blood
and mucous surfaces of the system, there-
by destroying the foundation of the dis-
ease, and giving the patient strength by
building up the constitution and assist-
ing nature in doing its work. The prop-
rietary have so much faith in its curative
powers, that they offer One Hundred
Dollars for any case that it fails to cure.
Send for list of testimonials. Address,
F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by Druggists, etc.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Holiday
Games
FREE

In each pound package of
Lion Coffee
from now until Christmas will
be found a free game, amusing
and instructive—50 different
kinds.
Get Lion Coffee and a Free Game
at Your Grocers.

Written for the RURAL WORLD.
OVER THE OKANOGAN TRAIL.

"Yes, mother, Robert Stevenson has
come home with me; come and see the
old pioneer who has been on the frontier
for forty years. He is the sole surviving
member of the Collins expedition that
went from Seattle to the Okanogan
Reservation in 1880. He is the largest
mine owner in the province and has
owned more than one bushel basketful of
gold. The great copper mountains on the
Sierran belongs to him. He has
come to examine the Lake Ridge claim.
Can you get us a nice lunch and some of
your best biscuits while we are prospect-
ing?" and he caught me in his arms after
the fashion of boys who have just
come home. "Yes, yes, I'll come; please
give me a chance for my life." I
laughed. "Let me get my breath and
brush my hair and take off my apron."
"Oh, come on mother! you are all right!"
he said, as I made a frantic effort to im-
prove my appearance.

So this heavy set man, with steel blue
eyes and massive head, was Robert Ste-
venson, the old pioneer. In five minutes
we were as if we had always known him.
He was genial as a boy, and his
vast fund of knowledge in regard to the
Puget Sound country made him visit
very welcome. He gave us an account of
Captain Collins and his daughter Susan,
a great-hearted woman with her rough
ways and dauntless courage—one of the
many who marked the way for the deli-
cate refined lady who came after.

The Collins home was open to every
wayfarer; on all they bestowed lavish
hospitality. Susan Collins accumulated
considerable property, but was unfortu-
nate in her matrimonial ventures, as has
been told. One morning she sprang out
of the cabin floor, and running a
splinter in her foot, died of tetanus (lock
jaw).

Thirty-two men were chosen to go with
Captain Collins on this perilous journey
to the Okanogan Reservation, with sup-
plies and ammunition for the fort. They
camped on one of the wooded heights
where Seattle now stands.

In 1782 Puget traveled the length of
the sound and dreamed he had found the
great river that joined the Pacific with
the Atlantic ocean. At evening, in the
hush that brooded over the waters, he
may have felt a presentiment of the
march of the hosts who would find a har-
bor here. That future multitudes would
stand on Mount Ranier, with its snow-
crowned heights, and gaze on scenes un-
surpassed for glory and loveliness. Wash-
ington, with its great timber lands, the
gem-like lakes, the winding rivers
through hills of mist and drifting
masses of clouds one could catch a
glimpse of Mt. Baker, Mt. Hood, Mt. St.
Helens, the Jeffersonian Peaks, the Cas-
cade and the Olympic. The smoke of the
cities and villages was not all a dream,
brave Puget. Vancouver has named his
island. It will be long years before the
mountain comes when Captain Collins will
call his roll in 1880. Yes, he is calling it
now. Robert Stevenson, answer it, as he
steps to his captain's side. A mere boy,
the first blue-eyed man the Indians ever
saw, and his blue eyes and daring, be-
came a legend in their tribe. Sam Hous-
ton answers the call he was a nephew of
the old Texan general, daring, fiery tem-
pered, much like his far-famed old uncle.
The others were men fit for the work be-
fore them. They marched out into the
unbroken wilderness and before them
were mountains to be climbed, turbulent
rivers to be forded, the trail to be cut
through the almost impenetrable forest.
There are nooks where the sun never
lights the shady recesses. Lakes and val-
leys to be crossed; on the trail are wild
beasts and still more savage men. One
tribe of the Chinooks are unconquerable.
They are peaceful only through weak-
ness of numbers.

In the mountain fastness they found
a black man of giant stature, a chief of
one of the tribes, who spoke English as
well as several other languages. When
asked why he was there, he told them
grimly, he "was not there to build
churches." When further urged to speak
of himself he bade them "not to inquire
too closely." He traded Sam Houston a
horse and cheated him. Sam found it out
after they left camp and was very angry
—said "he was going back to kill the
nigger." That would not do at all, and
it required every effort to keep him from
going back. The Indians were on one
white man's track. It was, indeed, a
death shadowed trail; they wanted whis-
ky and constantly harassed the men.
There was a keg half full, and it is a
fact that half a keg of liquor will wear
a pack pony out, as the liquor rolls back
and forth as it walks. In an unguarded
hour the men let the Indians have the
whisky for 50 silver dollars. I think they
filled the keg with water. The terrible
orgies at the Indians' camp that night
made the men realize their terrible mis-
take. After the Indians sobered up a
little, back they came for more. The cap-
tain's "No" was most emphatic this time.

One day they camped on a sandy prairie
about three miles wide. On one side
flowed the Columbia river. A smaller river,
the Okanogan, flowed into it. Inac-
cessible mountains bounded the rest, ex-
cept an opening outside half a mile or
more wide. Two hundred Indians had
gathered near this opening. It was a
grave situation, as the post was still

some distance away. There was no fal-
tering now when the Indians renewed
their drying for whisky. A hostile In-
dian was bad enough when held in check by
a treaty of peace, but a drunken Indian
has no respect for any earthly thing, as
he says "Indian all the same as white
man then."

The men held a council of war and
made like preparations possible. Forty
years ago they did not have the ammuni-
tion or guns they do now, but these men
had the best that time afforded. In the
afternoon thirty-two Indians rode into
the prairie, just the same number as the
white men. They rode in a circle, the
narrowing down each time, howling and
screaming like demons. Their war whoop
echoed among the hills. The men under-
stood their language, and every vile epithet
that a wicked thought could devise
were hurled at the whites. A perfect pan-
demonium reigned. Captain Collins gave
his orders quietly. He was evident they
thought he was scared, the white men.
"Don't fire!" was the captain's orders.
"Until I give the word. If these were all
it would be a small matter, but there
are two hundred or more outside, remem-
ber." Each man was in his place. Rob-
ert Stevenson stood by his captain's
side, the Indians were shouting and
screaming. The Indians would swing them-
selves on the opposite side of their
canyons. "See! Captain!" said Steven-
son, "now nicely I could pick that fellow
off." And he drew a bead on the tripled
head that showed a moment. Sam Hous-
ton's blood was boiling. He was ready
to die like this was war, the white men.
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The joyous feast of Christmas is to
many both the day on which to pay off
social obligations. Debts that have ac-
cumulated during the year are paid with
interest on this sacred day. Many argue,
"I gave me a Christmas present last
year that cost \$5, and I will pay \$5 for
one I give her this year." Or, "I just
bought a new dress, and I will give it
as a Christmas gift, because I love my
wife." "God so loved the world that
he gave his only begotten Son," as a
perfect gift to redeem us. Love, there-
fore, and not pride, not self, not obliga-
tion should be the motive power that
prompts us to celebrate the day in a fit-
ting manner. Do not let the commercial
spirit of the times enter into your calcu-
lations, but rather hark back centuries
ago to that humble stable in which was
born, for our sake, the Christ, the
Savior. The spirit of love should an-
imate us in preparing for Christmas, and
a generous motive prompt us to give lib-
erally of our time, money and strength to
make the day merry and bright.

In memory of the divine Child, who
has brought blessing, let the little
ones have a day of freedom and joy, of
meritment and contentment, and recall
those who made the day the red letter
day of your childhood years. Forget not
the poor and the sick, the lonely and the
troubled; they should be nearer to us on
this day than any other during the
year, and in feeding them, in alleviating
their pain, in consoling and cheering
them we will be recompensed in the hap-
piness that comes to those who are
blessed in giving. Let us then put into
stock a supply of yuletide good fellow-
ship to use throughout the year; so that
when Christmas comes again we will
have learned the difference between the
true and the false, the real and the arti-
ficial Christmas gift.

MARIE MERRON.
FOR COLD MORNINGS.

BACON WITH MUSH—Fry thin slices
of bacon, remove to a warm platter, fry
thin slices of corn meal mush in the
fat, serve with a slice of bacon on each
piece.

FRIED SCRAPS—Chop fine the bits of
cold meat, a little cold potato, stir in a
rich gravy. Form into cakes dip in
milk, then in crumbs and fry a rich
brown. Serve hot.

OAT MEAL GEMS—Soak two cups rolled
oats over night, in one and a half cups
sour milk. In the morning add one-half
cup of molasses, a cup of wheat flour, one
egg, a teaspoonful each of salt and soda.
Mix well, bake in gem pans in a hot oven
fifteen minutes.

FRIED LIVER—Cut liver in thin slices
scald and wipe dry. Dip in the beaten
yolk of one egg, then in crumbs, sprinkle
with salt and pepper, fry in hot fat.

FRIED SALT PORK—Dip thin slices
of salt pork in sweet milk, then in flour,
have the spider well greased and hot.
Place the slices of pork in the spider, fry
to a delicate brown on both sides. Serve
hot. Thicken the drippings with flour,
let brown, pour in a cup of rich sweet
milk, let boil once, pour in a bowl. These,
with the oat meal gems, and good coffee
will make a good breakfast for any
healthy appetite—if the gems hold out.

SALTED SALMON—Soak overnight in
the morning place in a skillet with enough
fresh boiling water to cover; let boil ten
minutes. Drain, place on a hot platter.
Lay bits of butter over the fish and serve
at once.

FRIED EGGS—Into hot bacon or ham
fat drop fresh eggs, enough to cover the
skillet. Cover the skillet closely, set on
the back of the stove for ten minutes,
serve at once on hot plates.

EMMA CLEARWATERS.

NONSENSE RHYME.

I have loved her long and well;
I love her more than words can tell.
She is so sweet and good to me,
My own dear Jersey cow, my Callee!
MERRON.

MYRON B.

It's the men and women who give the
honest thought to their work who ac-
complish maximum results with a mini-
mum of labor.

All Hands On Time

The second hand,
the minute hand,
the hour hand, run
in unison on an

ELGIN
Watch

Perfect in construction; positive in
performance. Every genuine Elgin
has the word "Elgin" engraved on
the works. Illustrated art booklet free.

ELGIN NATIONAL WATCH COMPANY, Elgin, Ill.

THE PATTERN IN THE LOOM.

Let us take to our hearts a lesson—no
lesson can braver be
From the ways of a tapestry weaver on
the other side of the sea.
Above their heads the pattern hangs;
they study it with care.
The white threads fasten their work,
their eyes are fastened there.

They tell this curious thing besides, of the
patient, plodding weaver,
His works on the wrong side evermore,
But for the right side ever,
It is only when the weaving stops,
and the web is loosed and turned,
That he sees his real handiwork—that
his marvelous skill is learned.

The years of man are the looms of God
let down from the place of the Sun.
Wherein we are weaving away, till the
mystic web is done—
Weaving blindly, but I am going to
weave for himself his fate.

We may not see how the right side
looks; we can only weave and wait.
But looking above for the pattern, no
weaver need have fear.
His toil shall be sweeter than honey,
his weaving is sure to clear.

Poultry

POULTRY HOUSES.

Editor RURAL WORLD: I have four
letters from our subscribers asking me to
describe on paper our poultry houses,
the one I spoke about at Institutes. This
house has been in use about 17 years, and
I will tell how to make one a little better
and just as cheap.

To winter 75 to 100 hens, with free range
whenever weather will permit, the house
of 24 ft. x 30 ft. x 12 ft. high, five feet
will do, gable roof, door in south
or east end, small windows in ends, one
above door and the other at opposite
gable end.

The bill of lumber is as follows:
24 ft. siding, 12 ft. long..... \$75
2 sills, 4x4, 20 feet long..... 56
2 plates, 2x4, 20 feet long..... 56
4 cross ties, 2x4, 10 feet long..... 24
4 corner posts, 2x4, 6 feet long..... 24
20 rafters, 2x4, 8 feet long..... 120

Sheeting or roof boards, about 20 feet,
or all 615 feet 2x6 shingles; 12 lb. 30
nails; 14 lb. 5p nails; 6 lb. 5p nails, 32
lb.; 1 pair strap hinges; 3 sash, 30x20;
cost of, material, will vary, but not be
far from
Lumber, 815 feet, at \$1.35..... \$11.00
Shingles, 615 per M..... 7.50
14 lb. nails, 30..... 5.00
Hinges..... 1.00
Sash and glass..... 1.50

There will also be a bill of 6c for a
roll of building paper, 10c for tacks and
about 75c for 121 strips for the outside
cracks, bringing the total cost up to
\$22.50.

Two men can put this building up and
roof it in less than two days, and the
total tools needed are hatchet, saw and
square.

The building is put up box frame style,
and the rafters are set on the
ground, raising them after the boards
were nailed to sills and plates. Our foun-
dation is of stone, but where stone is not
to be had, we would make it of brick or
cement, one barrel of the latter and
six barrels of gravel or broken stone will
put a sufficiently strong foundation un-
der a building of this size we name and
raise it four inches above the ground.

The cracks are stripped with 1x2 inch
strips, nailed on with 6p nails, and the
inside covered with cheap building paper
costing 6c per roll of 500 square feet. Put
on with ordinary carpenter's tacks.

The floor is of rammed clay, put in dry
and sprinkled with fine sand, down each
inch layer. Around the edges of floor we
put in all the broken glass, pottery and
scraps stove castings we had to discour-
age the rats, and they have never got in
the house.

The door is four feet wide and six feet
high, made better style and has one
board cut and hinged at the bottom to
make a small door for use in windy, cold
weather. We have tried several styles
of roosts, but never had any as satisfac-
tory as those made by hanging 2x4 scantling
from the rafters by 1/2-inch rods,
having rods long enough to let
scantling come within two feet of floor.
Two of these will be necessary, and four
rods to hang them by; the roosting
strips are 1 1/2x2, let down an inch in slots
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lifted off when one wants to do a general
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Of course, I need not say that all
boards must be driven up close before
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but ours is common rough hemlock and
is very satisfactory. I would not have a
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building and dare not mention something
that would add 25 to 30 per cent to the
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Where a man has his own logs and
can take them to a sawmill, he can re-
duce the cost of building by several dol-
lars.

I would not build a larger house than
10x20 for 100 hens that can have free
range.

One-half of the house, or 10x10, is de-
voted to roosts, the rest is clear floor
with nest boxes at the sides.

When we had our roosts on a level
with the plates we sometimes had frost-
ed combs. Since we put them down we
have had 25 degrees below zero, and have
not had frozen combs or feet.

In building any kind of a house at-
tention should be paid to proper drainage
and grading before the foundation is
made. Such a house as we describe, with
100 hens, well fed, kept in one year,
will pay for itself.

C. D. LYON.
Higginsport, O.

Mothers will find "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" the best remedy for Children's Teething.

PROPER SELECTION.

Editor RURAL WORLD: All domestic
fowls will stand confinement reasonably
well if they have nice clean houses, runs,
and are kept busy most of the time. If
Leghorns, or any other breed of fowls,
are kept in a barren lot without any-
thing to do to pass the time away they
would certainly become restless and would
be unprofitable, to say the least. Exercise
is the one great thing when it comes to
health and egg production. If a person
decides to keep any breed it makes no
difference whether they are Bantams or
Brahmans, they must be kept pretty fed
and have exercise or the egg basket will
be empty.

If you live in town and would like to
keep chickens you should build a women
wire fence around the chicken lot and
not allow your chickens to annoy your
neighbors or scratch up your own flower
beds. It would be as reasonable to give
the baby the hammer and looking-glass
as to try to raise flowers and chickens in
the same enclosure. There is no place on
earth a hen loves so dearly as the flower
beds and garden. A hen would rather
stay in a garden all day and dodge all
manner of nuisances with her life, remain-
ing in the balance, than to dwell in peace
any other place. Wire netting is cheap
and it don't pay to take the chance of
getting into trouble with your neighbors,
or imposing on them just because they
have no fighting blood in their veins.

For Hamburgs, Leghorns and all small
breeds a seven foot fence is not too high,
and the bottom should be closely woven.
For Plymouth Rocks and other

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with nest boxes at the sides.

When we had our roosts on a level
with the plates we sometimes had frost-
ed combs. Since we put them down we
have had 25 degrees below zero, and have
not had frozen combs or feet.

In building any kind of a house at-
tention should be paid to proper drainage
and grading before the foundation is

NORMAN J. COLEMAN, } EDITORS.
W. A. STEVENSON }

THE CHEMISTRY OF THE FARM.

THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

WHY DO CORN LEAVES CURL IN DRY WEATHER?

plant. Thus the circle is complete and our bright young readers will already

THE MAGNITUDE OF THE LIVE

The United States is doing more for

THE CASCADE GARDENS.

FARM HANDS

Jake tend the stock and so on, but let them learn to do everything.

DENS.
graduate does not enjoy life to half the extent of the agricultural college gradu-

NEWS AND COMMENT

expense and loss and be at once the most convenient, practical and sensible measure the wit of man has yet devised. One would think that its simplicity and safety would commend it at once to the posterity of the world, but men in official positions become so attached to old methods that they insensibly cling to them and persistently fight all innovations. It is precisely this class of men that the Postal Check system has had to fight, but the members of Congress ought to be above such petty considerations and to have the courage to regard the matter as it stands. The Postal Check is fraught with incalculable benefit to the business interests of the country. We trust that Congress will look at this from the high plane of statesmanship and not be influenced by the objections of interested parties.